

Engineering Heritage Australia Bulletin: #29

11 April 2023

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Thornleigh Zig Zag Railway

In early 2021 EHS was approached by Tim Sowden from Hornsby Shire Historical Society, for us to support their submission to TfNSW to include recognition of the historical significance of the Thornleigh Zig Zag in the proposed upgrade works on Thornleigh Station. A letter of support was provided and much appreciated.

TfNSW has since taken the Historical Society's submissions into account, and the works at Thornleigh now include heritage recognition of the Zig Zag. It is great that Engineering Heritage was able to contribute to this successful outcome.

Tim Snowden has now authored a book about the Zig Zag, including its history, operation, what happened after it closed and the current works. Included in the book is a suggested walking tour, complete with map and photographs. This is a really excellent book, with great information and produced (and printed) locally to a very high standard. It is good to see that Tim acknowledged the support of EA / EHS four times in the book.

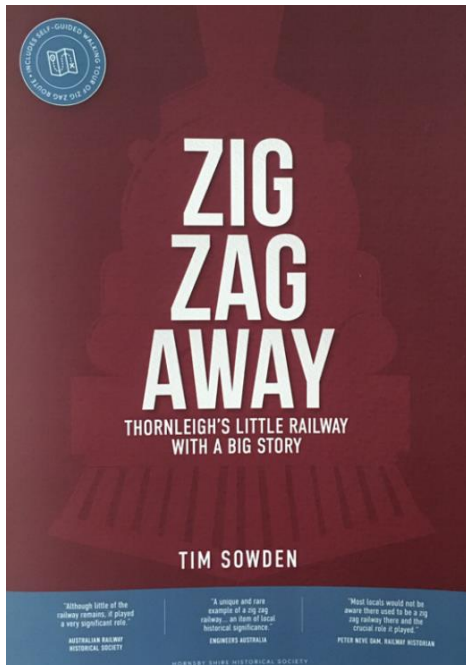
I am not alone in my commendation, for Howard Collins, TfNSW Chief Operations Officer (and a passionate engineering heritage advocate) has noted:

"A hidden gem of a Sydney railway story. This booklet is packed with information that uncovers the 'other' Zig Zag railway and magically retraces the path of this engineering marvel." Howard Collins OBE

For only \$20, I would recommend this book, for its history and its demonstration of how engineering heritage can be preserved and promoted. And I am keen to get up to Thornleigh to try the suggested walking tour.

Tim Sowden has created a website where you can order copies: www.thornleighzigzag.com.au or via email thornleighzigzag@gmail.com. The cost covers printing, design and other admin, with any profits going to the Hornsby Shire

Historical Society. The book is also available through the Australian Railway Historical Society's bookshop, at Central, Alexandria or on line



(From Frank Johnson)

Outstanding article in the April edition of Create Magazine

Make sure that you obtain the April edition of *Create Magazine*, the official magazine of Engineers Australia, as it features an outstanding article about engineering heritage projects and includes talks from our chair, Mike Taylor.

The article was a team effort from EHA. It was EHA and the Sydney, Canberra and Victoria branches that provided the reporter with the contacts that made such a multistory article possible.

Refer below to the pdf version of the magazine.

https://createdigital.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Create_APR23_Digital-compressed-min.pdf

(From Firas Shawash)

Reconstruction of the Quay Quarter Towers – Hybrid event by EHS

On 17 April 2023, EHS has arranged a talk on award winning Quay Quarter Towers at Circular Quay.

This presentation has important lessons in the promotion of heritage engineering, demonstrating how existing buildings can be economically and sustainably reused rather than demolished. Design of the Quay Towers was by 3XN Australia and BVN Architecture, and engineers were Arup Pty Ltd and BG&E Consulting Engineers.

The talk will be by Robert Saidman BME, BCom, MIEAust, CEng, NER, Building Services Engineer, Arup Pty Ltd, and Vince Betto BE MIEAust, Director Buildings & Property East Coast BG&E Pty Ltd.

It will be a hybrid event, at Engineers Australia's Market Street offices in Sydney and online.

Details of the talk and booking arrangements can be found at: <https://www.engineersaustralia.org.au/event/2023/03/reconstruction-quay-quarter-towers-47351>

(From Frank Johnson)

Lecture about structural issues in heritage buildings - EHTas

EHTas will be having a lecture by member Peter Spratt on May 11 at 1730. Peter will talk about structural issues in heritage buildings and how to deal with some of these issues. More details will be provided closer to the date .

(From Robert Taaffe)

EA on demand

EA on demand has many recorded webinars about engineering heritage.

An interesting webinar that I recommend is about The New Western Australian Museum, which is a mix of heritage and contemporary architecture. The project was briefly discussed in the article of the April edition of *Create Magazine*.



In the Webinar, Peter Dean, Principal at design practice Hassell and Tania Perpoli, Principal Structural Engineer with BG&E, explained how through intelligent design and smart engineering, visitors can seamlessly transition between restored heritage-listed buildings and the new contemporary spaces.

Below is a link to the webinar which is free for EA members:

<https://eaondemand.engineersaustralia.org.au/Play?pld=1dfd227c-ab70-4b3e-869a-c6f72ce0bdcf>

(From Firas Shawash)

Contributions needed

Readers are invited to share news, bright ideas, issues of concern, advice about online talks – anything that would be of interest and helpful to others, by sending them to editor Firas Shawash at fshawash@yahoo.com for inclusion in the next Bulletin - more Australia-wide content would be appreciated.

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